

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-23 (Canceled).

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): An information recording system for recording information ~~[[on]]~~ in a recording layer of an optical recording medium, comprising:

a driving component for driving the optical recording medium;

a writing component for forming a visible image pattern by irradiation of light on ~~[[a]]~~ the recording layer formed in the optical recording medium to generate a change in optical characteristic of the recording layer where pits are formed with the light as compared to a pit-less portion where pits are not formed; [[and]]

a data ~~generating~~ acquiring component for ~~generating~~ automatically acquiring character data ~~[[of]]~~ to produce image data for forming the visible image pattern ~~to be formed in the recording layer of the optical recording medium,~~ wherein said writing component modulates the light based on ~~image pattern~~ said image data produced from said character data generated by said data generating component and irradiates the modulated light on the recording layer~~[[,]]~~;

~~said system further comprising~~ an editing component for editing ~~[[the]]~~ said image pattern data generated by produced from said character data generating component; and

a reading component for optically reading information already recorded in the recording layer of the optical recording medium,

wherein said editing component ~~detects~~ obtains a width of an unrecorded area in the recording layer based on information read by said reading component or reflected light quantity from said optical recording medium, compares in size said visible image pattern by said image data with said unrecorded area, and automatically edits said image data for forming the visible the image pattern data ~~generated by said data-generating component~~ so that the visible image pattern ~~matches with~~ does not extend beyond said ~~detected~~ unrecorded area[.];

~~adapted to compare the size of the image pattern to be generated with the unrecorded area for forming said image pattern and to prohibit formation of the visible image pattern when the unrecorded area is smaller than the size of the image pattern.~~

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): An information recording system for recording information ~~[[on]]~~ in a recording layer of an optical recording medium, comprising:

a driving component for driving the optical recording medium;

a writing component for forming a visible image pattern by irradiation of light on ~~[[a]]~~ the recording layer formed in the optical recording medium to generate a change in optical characteristic of the recording layer where pits are formed with the light as compared to a pit-less portion where pits are not formed; and

a data ~~generating~~ acquiring component for ~~generating~~ automatically acquiring character data ~~[[of]]~~ to produce image data for forming the visible image pattern ~~to be formed in the recording layer of the optical recording medium~~, wherein said writing component modulates the light based on ~~image pattern~~ said image data produced from said character data generated by said data-generating component and irradiates the modulated light on the recording layer[.];

~~said system further comprising~~ an editing component for editing ~~[[the]]~~ said image pattern data ~~generated by produced from~~ said character data ~~generating component~~; and a reading component for optically reading information already recorded in the recording layer of the optical recording medium,

wherein said editing component ~~detects~~ obtains a width of an unrecorded area in the recording layer based on information read by said reading component or reflected light quantity from said optical recording medium, compares in size said visible image pattern by said image data with said unrecorded area, and automatically edits the image pattern data generated by said data generating component so that the image pattern matches with said detected unrecorded area, ~~adapted to compare a width of the visible image pattern to be generated with a width of the unrecorded area for forming the image pattern and to prohibit~~ prohibits formation of the visible image pattern when the width of the unrecorded area is smaller than the width of the visible image pattern.

Claims 26-57 (Canceled).

Claims 58 (New): An information recording system as claimed in claim 24, wherein said system further comprises a preview image generating part for generating a preview image of the visible image pattern formed by use of said image data automatically edited.

Claim 59 (New): An information recording system as claimed in claim 58, wherein said system further comprises a part to receive a user's decision as to prohibition of the recording of said visible image pattern based on said preview image.

Claim 60 (New): An information recording system as claimed in claim 24, wherein said data acquiring component automatically acquires said character data from an optical or electrical signal source.

Claim 61 (New): An information recording system as claimed in claim 60, said optical or electrical signal source comprises one of a CD (Compact Disk), an MD (Mini Disk), a DVD (Digital Versatile Disk), and a television tuner output signal.

Claim 62 (New): An information recording system as claimed in claim 61, wherein said television tuner output signal is a CS (Communications Satellite) tuner output signal.

Claim 63 (New): An information recording system as claimed in claim 61, wherein said television tuner output signal is a BS (Broadcast Satellite) tuner output signal.

Claim 64 (New): A recording method for recording information in a recording layer of an optical recording medium, comprising:

driving the optical recording medium;

forming a visible image pattern by irradiation of light on a recording layer formed in the optical recording medium to generate a change in optical characteristic of the recording layer where pits are formed with the light as compared to a pit-less portion where pits are not formed;

automatically acquiring character data to produce image data for forming the visible image pattern, wherein said writing comprises modulating the light based on said image data produced from said character data and irradiate the modulated light on the recording layer;

editing said image data produced from said character data; and

optically reading information already recorded in the recording layer of the optical recording medium,

wherein said editing comprises obtaining a width of an unrecorded area in the recording layer based on information read by said reading or reflected light quantity from said optical recording medium, comparing in size said visible image pattern by said image data with said unrecorded area, and automatically editing said image data for forming the visible image pattern so that the visible image pattern does not extend beyond said unrecorded area.

Claim 65 (New): An information recording method as claimed in claim 64, wherein said method further comprises generating a preview image of the visible image pattern formed by use of said image data automatically edited.

Claim 66 (New): An information recording method as claimed in claim 65, wherein said system further comprises receiving a user's decision as to prohibition of the recording of said visible image pattern based on said preview image.

Claim 67 (New): An information recording method as claimed in claim 64, wherein said character data is automatically acquired from an optical or electrical signal source.

Claim 68 (New): An information recording method as claimed in claim 67, said optical or electrical signal source comprises one of a CD (Compact Disk), an MD (Mini Disk), a DVD (Digital Versatile Disk), and a television tuner output signal.

Claim 69 (New): An information recording method as claimed in claim 68, wherein said television tuner output signal is a CS (Communications Satellite) tuner output signal.

Claim 70 (New): An information recording method as claimed in claim 68, wherein said television tuner output signal is a BS (Broadcast Satellite) tuner output signal.

Claim 71 (New): An information writing apparatus for performing data-recording of input data in a recording layer of a write-once disk or a rewritable disk with pits formed by irradiation of a writing light beam emitted from a light source based on the input data, comprising:

a writing component for performing a pit-art recording of a visible image pattern in the recording layer of said disk with pits formed by irradiation of a writing light beam emitted from said light source based on pit-art data, in addition to said data-recording based on said input data as ordinary data, with said pits formed in the recording layer of said disk by irradiation of said writing light beam;

a data acquiring component for automatically acquiring character data to produce said pit-art data;

an automatic editing component for obtaining a width of an unrecorded area of said disk, comparing in size said visible image pattern with said unrecorded area, and automatically editing said pit-art data so that said visible image pattern does not extend beyond said unrecorded area of said disk; and

a controller for controlling said writing component to perform said pit-art recording based on said automatically edited pit-art data.

Claim 72 (New): An information writing apparatus as claimed in claim 71, wherein said apparatus further comprises a preview image generating part for generating a preview image of the visible image pattern formed by use of said pit-art data automatically edited.

Claim 73 (New): An information writing apparatus as claimed in claim 72, wherein said apparatus further comprises a part to receive a user's decision as to prohibition of the recording of said visible image pattern based on said preview image.

Claim 74 (New): An information writing apparatus as claimed in claim 71, wherein said data acquiring component automatically acquires said character data from an optical or electrical signal source.

Claim 75 (New): An information writing apparatus as claimed in claim 74, said optical or electrical signal source comprises one of a CD (Compact Disk), an MD (Mini Disk), a DVD (Digital Versatile Disk), and a television tuner output signal.

Claim 76 (New): An information writing apparatus as claimed in claim 75, wherein said television tuner output signal is a CS (Communications Satellite) tuner output signal.

Claim 77 (New): An information writing apparatus as claimed in claim 75, wherein said television tuner output signal is a BS (Broadcast Satellite) tuner output signal.

Claim 78 (New): An information writing method for performing data-recording of input data in a recording layer of a write-once disk or a rewritable disk with pits formed by irradiation of a writing light beam emitted from a light source based on the input data, comprising:

performing a pit-art recording of a visible image pattern in the recording layer of said disk with pits formed by irradiation of a writing light beam emitted from said light source based on pit-art data, in addition to said data-recording based on said input data as ordinary data, with said pits formed in the recording layer of said disk by irradiation of said writing light beam;

automatically acquiring character data to produce said pit-art data;

automatically editing which includes obtaining a width of an unrecorded area of said disk, comparing in size said visible image pattern with said unrecorded area, and automatically editing said pit-art data so that said visible image pattern does not extend beyond said unrecorded area of said disk; and

controlling said writing component to perform said pit-art recording based on said automatically edited pit-art data.

Claim 79 (New): An information writing method as claimed in claim 78, further comprising generating a preview image of the visible image pattern formed by use of said pit-art data automatically edited.

Claim 80 (New): An information writing method as claimed in claim 79, further comprising receiving a user's decision as to prohibition of the recording of said visible image pattern based on said preview image.

Claim 81 (New): An information writing method as claimed in claim 78, wherein said character data is automatically acquired from an optical or electrical signal source.

Claim 82 (New): An information writing method as claimed in claim 81, said optical or electrical signal source comprises one of a CD (Compact Disk), an MD (Mini Disk), a DVD (Digital Versatile Disk), and a television tuner output signal.

Claim 83 (New): An information writing method as claimed in claim 82, wherein said television tuner output signal is a CS (Communications Satellite) tuner output signal.

Claim 84 (New): An information writing method as claimed in claim 82, wherein said television tuner output signal is a BS (Broadcast Satellite) tuner output signal.

Claim 85 (New): An information recording system as claimed in claim 24, wherein said data acquiring component acquires said character data from the table-of-contents (TOC) data of a finalized CD-R.

Claim 86 (New): An information recording method as claimed in claim 64, wherein said data acquiring component acquires said character data from the table-of-contents (TOC) data of a finalized CD-R.

Claim 87 (New): An information writing apparatus as claimed in claim 71, wherein said data acquiring component acquires said character data from the table-of-contents (TOC) data of a finalized CD-R.

Claim 88 (New): An information writing method as claimed in claim 78, wherein said data acquiring component acquires said character data from the table-of-contents (TOC) data of a finalized CD-R.